

S.N. 10/788,809

Response dated December 17, 2007

Reply to Office Action of October 19, 2007

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended) A nozzle assembly for a vacuum cleaner, comprising:  
a housing including a main cavity and at least one intake opening in fluid communication with said main cavity; and  
an edge cleaning duct having an inlet adjacent an edge of said housing and an outlet discharging into said mainagitator cavity.
2. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 1 wherein said inlet is discrete from said main cavity.
3. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 2, further including an agitator in said main cavity, said agitator being mounted for rotation relative to said housing.
4. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 2, wherein said housing has a first section and a second section.
5. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 4, wherein said second section nests with said first section.
6. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 5, wherein said first section includes a first channel defined by a first series of walls.

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7. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 6, wherein said second section includes a second channel defined by a second series of walls.

8. (previously presented) A nozzle assembly for a vacuum cleaner comprising:

    a housing including a main cavity and at least one intake opening in fluid communication with said main cavity; and

    an edge cleaning duct having an inlet adjacent an edge of said housing and an outlet in fluid communication with said main cavity;

    wherein said inlet is discrete from said main cavity, said housing has a first section and a second section and said second section nests with said first section, said first section includes a first channel defined by a first series of walls, said second section includes a second channel defined by a second series of walls and said second series of walls nests with said first series of walls to define said edge cleaning duct when said second section nests with said first section.

9. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 8, wherein first series of walls includes a first side wall, a second sidewall and a first end wall.

10. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 9, wherein said second series of walls includes a third sidewall, a fourth sidewall and a second end wall.

11. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 10, wherein said outlet is positioned between said third and fourth sidewalls adjacent said second end wall.

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12. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 11, wherein said first series of walls includes an intermediate wall between said first and second sidewalls spaced from said first end wall.

13. (original) The nozzle assembly of claim 12, wherein said second end wall includes a projecting edge engaging said intermediate wall.

14. (currently amended) A vacuum cleaner, comprising:  
a nozzle assembly;  
a canister assembly connected to said nozzle assembly;  
a suction generator carried on one of said nozzle assembly and said canister assembly; and

a dirt collection vessel carried on one of said nozzle assembly and said canister assembly, said suction generator drawing air entrained with dirt through said nozzle assembly to said dirt collection vessel before exhausting clean air back into the environment;

said vacuum cleaner being characterized by:

said nozzle assembly having a housing including a main cavity and at least one intake opening in fluid communication with said main cavity; and

an edge cleaning duct having an inlet adjacent an edge of said housing and an outlet discharging into said mainagitator cavity.

15. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 14 wherein said inlet is discrete from said main cavity.

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16. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 15, further including an agitator in said main cavity, said agitator being mounted for rotation relative to said housing.

17. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 15, wherein said housing has a first section and a second section.

18. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 17, wherein said second section nests with said first section.

19. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 18, wherein said first section includes a first channel defined by a first series of walls.

20. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 19, wherein said second section includes a second channel defined by a second series of walls.

21. (previously presented) A vacuum cleaner, comprising:  
a nozzle assembly;  
a canister assembly connected to said nozzle assembly;  
a suction generator carried on one of said nozzle assembly and said canister assembly; and

a dirt collection vessel carried on one of said nozzle assembly and said canister assembly, said suction generator drawing air entrained with dirt through said nozzle assembly to said dirt collection vessel before exhausting clean air back into the environment;

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    said vacuum cleaner being characterized by:

    said nozzle assembly having a housing including a main cavity and at least one intake opening in fluid communication with said main cavity; and

    an edge cleaning duct having an inlet adjacent an edge of said housing and an outlet discharging into said main cavity;

    wherein said inlet is discrete from said main cavity, said housing has a first section and a second section and said second section nests with said first section, said first section includes a first channel defined by a first series of walls, said second section includes a second channel defined by a second series of walls and said second series of walls nest with said first series of walls to define said edge cleaning duct when said second section nests with said first section.

22. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 21, wherein first series of walls includes a first side wall, a second sidewall and a first end wall.

23. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 22, wherein said second series of walls includes a third sidewall, a fourth sidewall and a second end wall.

24. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 23, wherein said outlet is positioned between said third and fourth sidewalls adjacent said second end wall.

25. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 24, wherein said first series of walls includes an intermediate wall between said first and second sidewalls spaced from said first end wall.

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26. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner of claim 25, wherein said second end wall includes a projecting edge engaging said intermediate wall.